

Giving Entrepreneurship Roots In Kentucky

Workshops Focus on Creating Entrepreneurial Communities

n late September, the Kentucky Center for Agricultural Development & Entrepreneurship (KCADE) and the Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches Institute (KECI) co-sponsored two one-day entrepreneurship workshops, *Creating an* Entrepreneurial Culture in Your Community, in south central and south eastern

Kentucky.



A group of entrepreneurs listen to a speaker at Buckhorn Lake State Park

To keep the momentum going in the communities that were represented, Dr. Ron Hustedde of KECI had participants write down one thing that each of them would do over the next month for entrepreneurship in their communities. After a month has passed, Dr. Hustedde will follow-up with those participants who need additional assistance in their communities.



preneurs in their community.

A group of students from Estill County High School have a discussion about entrepreneurship.

For more information on the Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches Institute, visit www.uky.edu/Ag/KECI or call (859) 257-3186. For more information about the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, visit www.energizingentrepreneurs.org or call (402) 323-7339.

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Did you know that there are 84,000 Farms in Kentucky?

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opefully by the time you read this issue of Commonwealth Grows you have completed your fall harvest and are preparing for the holiday season. It never fails, about Thanksgiving time each year, I begin to find time to wrap up recordkeeping for the year and begin planning for next year. For the staff of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP) and members of both the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (KADB) and Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation, the season seems to match the routine of farming.

It is no accident the KADB holds its annual planning session in November. Most members have harvest behind them and can make time for the two-day meeting. This annual planning session has become one of the most important events each year, as we take all of the suggestions and recommendations from throughout the year to develop the plans and programs for the year to come.

Over the summer months GOAP hosted regional roundtables across the Commonwealth. These provided an opportunity to gather input from County Agricultural Development Council members, Extension Agents, and other agricultural leaders who make this successful program work.

This year, I feel we have seen a number of great successes. We continued to see investments from the Agricultural Development Fund (ADF) pay great dividends to our farmers. Counting both the dollars from the ADF and the matching money for projects, we are quickly approaching a total of \$450 million invested in Kentucky agriculture since the spring of 2001.

The proof of our successes can be seen from the highways of the Commonwealth, in the stockyards, and farmer's markets in our rural communities. It can be measured in many ways, but most importantly in the gross farm receipts for the past two years. In 2004, Kentucky agriculture for the first time in history topped the \$4 billion mark in total farm receipts, and although we fell short in 2005, it was an impressive \$3.97 billion. All of this occurred at a time, when the main cash crop tobacco has declined from a high of over \$900 million in 1998 to \$342 million in 2005.

As you have seen on the front page, we are using one of our great success stories, the Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches Institute in cooperation with the Kentucky Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship to promote and educate rural leaders about the benefits of an entrepreneurial culture. Earlier this summer, we introduced the Pilot Satellite Broadband Cost-share program to assist farm families with accessing high speed internet service. All of these programs and success stories come from working together.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Commonwealth Grows; just maybe, it will give you an idea or information that will help you in planning for next year.

Sincerely,

Keith L. Rogers

Tent Ilm

Executive Director / CEO

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Check Presentation at Jackson's Orchard and Nursery

eith Rogers, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy, and the Kentucky Agriculture Development Board presented a ceremonial check to Jackson's Orchard and Nursery in the amount of \$50,000 in support the Agri-tourism Competitive Awards Program. Also in attendance for the ceremonial check presentation was Representative Jim Decesare and Speaker of the House Jody Richards.

"Jackson's Orchard and Nursery is a prime example of how agriculture diversification is helping Kentucky move forward by enabling producers to make changes to their farming operation by adjusting to a new agricultural economy, including agri-tourism, Keith Rogers said. The investment of Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds in this project will also give producers an outlet to market their Kentucky Proud products."



(From Left) Keith Rogers, Representative DeCesare, Bill Jackson, and Speaker of the House Jodi Richards

Jackson's Orchard & Nursery, Inc. was approved for \$50,000 in state funds, as a forgivable loan, to modernize and expand kitchen facilities and construct a pavilion activity area at the existing facility. Jackson's Orchard & Nursery, Inc. is an estab-

lished Bowling Green agri-tourism business that serves as a marketing outlet for Kentucky products. Jackson's Orchard also offers farm tours, a corn maze, straw castle, hayrides, a petting zoo, pony rides, live music and pick your own apples.



Jackson's Orchard and Nursery's retail outlet.

The Kentucky Legislature continue to make great strides towards lessening Kentucky's dependence on tobacco production while revitalizing the farm economy by investing 50 percent of Kentucky's Master Settlement Agreement into the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund. To date, Kentucky has invested more than \$225 million to an array of county, regional, and state projects designed to increase net farm income and create sustainable new farm-based enterprises. The diversification programs represent more than 2,672 projects that have been funded through Agricultural Development Fund, since the inception of the program in January 2001.

For more information on this project contact Bill Jackson with Jackson's Orchard & Nursery at (270) 781-5303. To learn more about cost-share grant and loan programs available though the Agricultural Development Fund contact the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627.

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DEADLINES

Are you planning to submit an application or amendment to the Agricultural Development Board? If so here are a few deadlines to keep in mind.

Model Program Applications

The first Friday of each month is the deadline for model program applications. If your model program is received in our office by the first Friday of the month then it will go before the Board at that month's meeting.

Non-Model Applications

The second Friday of each month is the deadline for all non-model project applications. If your application is received in our office by the second Friday of the month it will be referred at the Board meeting that month for consideration at the meeting the following month.

Model and Non-model Amendments

The first Friday of each month is the deadline for all model and non-model project amendments. If your amendment is received in our office by the first Friday of the month then it will go before the Board at that month's meeting.

* * * * *

Model Program Corner



Reminder

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board will review and approve model program changes at their Board Meeting on December 15, 2006.

CD's Still Available for Model Program Guidelines & Reports

Call (502) 564-4627 or e-mail govkyagpolicy@ky.gov your request for a 2006 CD Model Program Totals 2001-2006

Agricultural Diversification

Est. September 2001 \$11.690.467 / 96 Counties

Cattle Genetics

Est. February 2001 \$12,717,190 / 104 Counties

Cattle Handling

Est. June 2001 \$20,000,456 / 102 Counties

Dairy Diversification

Est. January 2005 \$1,386,817 / 25 Counties

Fencing Improvement

Est. March 2003 \$10,095,546 / 66 Counties

Forage Improvement

Est. March 2001 \$22,100,698 / 103 Counties

Goat & Sheep

Est. August 2001 \$3,531,143 / 92 Counties

Hay, Straw & Commodity

Est. November 2002 \$19,210,774 / 99 Counties

On-Farm Water

Est. March 2003 \$1,342,101 / 21 Counties

Shared-Use

Est. January 2005

\$879,539 / 40 Counties

Swine

Est. January 2005 \$72.765 / 6 Counties

Technology Program

Est. January 2005 \$962,072 / 24 Counties

Timber

Est. January 2005 \$225,955 / 7 Counties

Kentucky Agricultural Development Board News

KADB Visits the KSU Aquaculture Research Center

he Kentucky Agricultural Development Board's September Meeting was all about Aquaculture! The Board and staff visited the Kentucky State University (KSU) Aquaculture Research Center in Frankfort, KY.

Dr. James Tidwell, Division Chair, gave a presentation on the Aquaculture Program at KSU and what they had to offer. Upon completion of their program, students should have the knowledge of production and reproduction of primary Aquaculture species, basic physiology and nutrition of aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate culture species, mechanics and operation of primary production methods, causes and controls of pathogenic organism, the function and manipulation of biological and chemical cycles in ponds, and the design and analysis of experiments. For more information on this program visit their website at www.ksuaquaculture.org.

Aquaculture students gave Board and staff tours of the Research Facility. The tour included a lessons on the paddle fish, which is used for caviar (pictured at right), and fresh water shrimp. Then the Board was treated to a delicious catfish lunch provided by Kentucky State University. The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board and the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy thank Kentucky State University for their hospitality!





KADB Members and GOAP Staff tour the grounds of the Kentucky State University Aquaculture Research Center.



KADB Attends Energy Summit

Members of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board attended the Kentucky Office of Energy Policy's Energy Summit titled *Unbridled Energy: The Industrialization of Kentucky's Energy Resources* on Friday, October 20, 2006 in Louisville, KY.

At the KADB annual planning session in November the Board will be considering a policy on renewable energy. Page 6 Volume 6, Issue 4

Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation Updates

Kentucky Bio-Processing, LLC Grand Opening

overnor Ernie Fletcher's
Chief of Staff Stan Cave
and Keith Rogers Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy were in
Owensboro on September 8,
2006 for the grand opening ceremonies of Kentucky BioProcessing, LLC. The bioprocessing company operates a unique, state-ofthe-art facility which enables a
great range of quality bioprocessing services.

"This collaborative effort shares Governor Fletcher's vision of Kentucky becoming a leader in plant made natural products and enables new leadership in this emerging industry," said Chief of Staff Cave. "The Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation realized the upside potential of this project as well as the opportunities for Kentucky farmers. It is this kind of vision that pioneers new industry."

The Kentucky Agriculture Finance Corporation (KAFC), provided a

overnor Ernie Fletcher's \$3.6 million loan to assist in the Chief of Staff Stan Cave and Keith Rogers Execuand Keith Rogers Execuator of the Governor's Of-gricultural Policy were in proportion on September 8, \$3.6 million loan to assist in the purchase of the former Large Scale Biology Corporation (LSBC), which shut down its operations in late December 2005. In March 2006, the sale was ap-



Keith Rogers, Stan Cave and other leaders at KY BioProcessing's tobacco cutting ceremony.

proved to Owensboro Medical Health Systems, which created Kentucky BioProcessing, LLC (KBP).

The main focus of the KBP facility will be extracting purified proteins and other value added products

from plants and organic materials. This can lead the way to natural product production from plants and opportunities for Kentucky farmers.

KBP will work with several natural product companies – including the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center, the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville – to maximize the use of the facility. KBP and Owensboro Biotech Alliance also have a strong connection to some of the most knowledgeable farmers who helped LSBC pioneer this emerging industry.

Kentucky continues to make great strides toward lessening Kentucky's dependence on tobacco production while revitalizing the farm economy. KAFC was created to provide capital access for agricultural diversification and infrastructure projects. KAFC has approved \$14,369,448 in loans (78 projects) since June 2005.

Beginning Farmer Loan Program Policy Change

The initial Beginning Farmer Loan Program policy stated that an eligible applicant could not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average farm size in the county where it is located. The Board approved at their last meeting to remove the farm size restriction.

What's New at GOAP?

GOAP Staff Attends Kentucky Proud Reception

Project Analyst, Nick Whobrey, Project Analyst and Angela Blank, Communications Officer attended The *Kentucky Proud* "Toast to Kentucky Retailers." This was the opening event of the 2006 Kentucky Grocers Association and Kentucky Association of Convenience Stores Convention.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is creating opportunities for economic development for both farmers and food retailers throughout Kentucky. This reception provided the opportunity for food retailers from across the state to begin learning more about the Kentucky Proud Program.



October was Goat Month in Kentucky

odd Harp, Project Analyst, attended the Kentucky Goat Producers Association

Annual Meeting on October 21. Dr.
Frank
Pinkerton, a retired goat extension specialist



Todd Harp spoke with Dr. Gil Myers and Richard VanSickle.

and nationally recognized meat goat authority was a featured speaker. Dr. Richard Browning a professor at the Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research at

Tennessee State University also spoke.

In addition to speakers, the event consisted of a trade show and numerous educational sessions during the day, culminating with the 2006 business session election of new board members for 2007.

New Administrative Assistant Begins Work at GOAP

eith Rogers, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP), announced the appointment of Stacia Alford as the new Administrative Assistant for the office. Stacia replaces Jessica Woolums who left GOAP in October for a job at Kroger Mid-South.

Stacia is a 2006 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with a Bachelors Degree in Environmental Health Science. For the past six months she worked in Louisville at Environmental Concerns a testing facility for asbestos, lead, and mold.

Stacia said, "I have been involved in some way with agriculture my entire life. I am excited to be joining the GOAP staff."

Stacia grew up with her two sisters on a farm in Lincoln County where they grew tobacco. She now resides in Lexington, KY.

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n the past three months \$10,838,193 in Agricultural Development Funds have been invested in Kentucky's agricultural diversification effort.

The following are projects, receiving Agricultural Development Funds for June, July, and August 2006. These projects represent 44 of the 2,672 projects that have been approved since the program's inception (2001).

June 2006 Investments

Buffalo Trace Area Development District

The Buffalo Trace Area Development District was approved for \$21,000 in Robertson County funds to administer a Heifer Replacement Program in Robertson County.

Burton Livestock, LLC

Harold W. Burton was approved for \$3,000 in Fleming County funds, \$2,000 in Mason County funds, and \$419,818 in state funds in the form of a forgivable loan for a Holstein Heifer Replacement Program.

Fayette County Rural Land Management Board, Inc.

The Fayette County Rural Land Management Board, Inc. was approved for \$250,000 in Fayette County funds for the purchasing of conservation easements on rural farmland in Fayette County.

Garrard County Fair Board

The Garrard County Fair Board was approved for \$2,500 in

Agricultural Development Fund Investments

Garrard County funds to have a concrete floor added to the marketing/exhibit building at the Garrard County Fair Grounds.

Gone Fishin Catfish Farms

Gone Fishin Catfish Farms, Inc. was approved for \$1,500 in Grayson County funds to purchase equipment necessary to transport live fish and the construction of facilities to expand into frozen processing.

Hart County Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

The Hart County Chamber of Commerce, Inc. was approved for \$1,500 in Hart County to organize a farmers' market that will be open in late June and operate until October.



Katelyn's Honey, Inc.

Katelyn's Honey, Inc. was approved for \$5,000 in Grant County funds and \$288,850 in state funds in the form of a forgivable loan to purchase state of the art equipment to process fruits and vegetable harvested at their peak quality into premium value added products.

Kentucky Agricultural Heritage Center, Inc.

The Kentucky Agricultural Heritage Center, Inc. was approved for \$1,000,000 in state funds for the market/development study, the architectural design/development and the marketing/promotion of the center.

Kentucky Community and Technical College System

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System was approved for \$892,500 in state funds to continue offering courses to farmers that teach them how to effectively use computer technology for financial records, inventory, livestock records, research/marketing on the internet, communicate through e-mail and other general computer functions.

Mason County Board of Education

The Mason County Board of Education was approved for \$45,000 in Mason County funds to construct an instructional greenhouse for the Mason County High School.

Meade County Riverport Authority

The Meade County Riverport Authority was approved for \$20,000 in Meade County funds to assist with the preliminary engineering and design costs for the overall development of

the Meade County Riverport that is capable of receiving grain and other agriculture products for shipment to domestic and overseas markets.

Metcalfe County Fiscal Court

Metcalfe County Fiscal Court was approved for \$75,000 in Metcalfe County funds to construct the Metcalfe County Agricultural Marketing and Exhibition Center

Mt. Sterling-Montgomery County Industrial Authority

The Mt. Sterling-Montgomery County Industrial Authority was approved for \$108,000 in Montgomery County funds and \$10,000 in Bath County funds to continue cost-sharing the services of a regional marketing specialist to assist Montgomery County and other farmers in the region, in marketing agricultural commodities and value-added products.

Serenity Hill Fiber and Living History Farm, LLC

Serenity Hill Fiber and Living History Farm, LLC was approved for \$3,000 in Jessamine County funds to assist in the restoration of an historic log cabin which is serving as a retail outlet for Kentucky products.

Southern Kentucky Regional Farmers' Market, Inc.

The Southern Kentucky Regional Farmers' Market, Inc. was approved for \$5,000 in Warren County funds to assist with the 2006 advertising

budget.

Spencer County Public Schools

Spencer County Public Schools was approved for \$25,000 in Spencer County funds to purchase seven agricultural computer modules for the Career Learning Center.

Taylor County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.

Taylor County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. was approved for \$13,360 in Taylor County funds to administer a youth heifer chain.



Keith Rogers presents Representative Mike Harmon and local officials with a check for the Springfield Farmers' Market

City of Springfield

The City of Springfield was funded for \$5,100 in Washington ton County funds and \$5,100 in states funds as part of the Farmers' Market Competitive Awards program to complete a farmers' market pavilion project in downtown Springfield.

Cumberland Farm Products Association, Inc.

Cumberland Farm Products Association, Inc. was approved for

\$2,500 in Wayne County funds and \$2,500 in state funds as part of the Farmers' Market Competitive Awards program to purchase produce display coolers for the Monticello location.

Lawrence County Extension District Board

The Lawrence County Extension District Board was approved for \$18,000 in state funds to construct a farmers' market shed as part of the Farmer's Market Competitive Awards program.

London-Laurel County Farmers' Market Association

The London-Laurel County
Farmers' Market Association
was approved for \$75,000 in
Laurel County funds and
\$50,000 in state funds as part
of the Farmers' Market Competitive Awards program to expand the London-Laurel County
Farmers' Market Facility.

Monroe County Conservation District

The Monroe County Conservation District was approved for \$200,000 in Monroe County funds to administer a menu approach for five model programs including, Cattle Handling Facilities, Forage Resource and Utilization, Cattle Genetics Improvement, On-Farm Water Enhancement, and Farm Livestock Fencing Improvement.

Morgan County Fiscal Court

The Morgan County Fiscal Court was approved for \$220,200 in Morgan County Page 10 Volume 6, Issue 4

funds to administer a menu approach for four model programs including Hay, Straw & Commodity Storage, Cattle Handling Facilities, Farm Livestock Fencing, and Goat & Sheep Diversification.

Trimble County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.

The Trimble County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. was approved for \$226,000 in Trimble County funds to administer a menu approach for eleven model programs including Forage Improvement, Genetics Improvement, Cattle Handling Facilities, Livestock Fencing, Hay, Straw & Commodity Storage, Technology, Goat & Sheep Diversification, Dairy Diversification, Timber Utilization, Swine Diversification, and Agricultural Diversification.



Cattle Handling Facility

Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc.

The Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc. was approved for \$95,000 in Woodford County funds to administer an agricultural diversification menu approach for two model programs including Agricultural Diversification and Farm Livestock Fencing.

Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc.

The Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc. was approved for \$60,000 in Woodford County funds to administer a cattle menu approach for three model programs including Cattle Handling Facilities, Cattle Genetics, and Forage Improvement.

Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc.

The Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc. was approved for \$71,351 in Woodford County funds to administer a menu approach for two model programs including Hay, Straw and Commodity Storage and Technology.

Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc.

The Woodford County Agriculture Advancement Council, Inc. was approved for \$30,000 in Woodford County funds to administer a livestock menu approach for two model programs including On Farm Water and Goat & Sheep Diversification.

July 2006 Investments

Anderson County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Anderson County Farm Bureau, Inc. was approved for \$136,097 in Anderson County funds to administer a menu program for eleven model programs including: Technology, Agricultural Diversification, Timber, Hay-Straw and Commodity Storage, On-Farm Water, Forage Im-

provement and Utilization, Cattle Genetics, Farm Livestock Fencing, Cattle Handling Facilities, Goat and Sheep Diversification, and Swine.

Bracken County Ag Advancement Council

The Bracken County Ag Advancement Council was approved for \$262,500 in Bracken County funds to administer a menu program for four model programs including: Cattle Handling Facilities, Technology, Farm Livestock Fencing, and Hay, Straw and Commodity Storage.

Buffalo Trace Area Development District

The Buffalo Trace Area Development District was approved for \$80,000 in Robertson County funds to administer a Hay Handling Project. This will allow producers to improve the capacity, profit, and handling of hay and straw through more efficient handling equipment.

Campbell County Conservation District

Campbell County Conservation District was approved for \$33,152 in Campbell County funds to administer a menu approach for six model programs including: Cattle Handling Facilities, Cattle Genetics, Agricultural Diversification, Forage Improvement and Utilization, Hay, Straw and Commodity Storage, and Farm Livestock Fencing.

Kentucky Dairy Development Council, Inc.

Kentucky Dairy Development Council, Inc. was approved for \$2,068,170 in state funds to provide technical assistance and financial incentives to Kentucky dairy farmers. This program will be to address the deficiency in Kentucky's milk production by improving efficiencies and increasing production per cow.

Lewis County Conservation District

The Lewis County Conservation District was approved for \$50,000 in Lewis County funds to administer a Hay Handling Project to allow producers the ability to obtain handling equipment for hay, straw, and grain.

Logan County Agricultural Extension Foundation, Inc.

The Logan County Agricultural Extension Foundation, Inc. was approved for \$14,656 in Logan County funds to purchase equipment to support a Livestock Marketing Initiative that will utilize the Logan County Farmers' Market facility that was recently constructed with the assistance of Agricultural Development Funds.

Logan County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.

The Logan County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. was approved for \$40,289 in Logan County funds to administer a menu program for three model programs including: Cattle Handling Facilities, Forage Improvement

and Utilization, and Livestock Fencing Improvement.

Muhlenberg County Farmers' Market Association, Inc.

Muhlenberg County Farmers' Market Association, Inc was approved for \$63,628 in Muhlenberg County funds to administer an On-Farm Drainage Enhancement Program which will provide cost-share assistance to producers who are installing tile drainage systems on their land.

University of Kentucky

The University of Kentucky was approved for \$146,360 in state funds to continue funding the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program for twenty agriculturalists.

August 2006 Investments

Carroll County 4-H Council

Carroll County 4-H Council, Inc. was approved for \$500 in Carroll County funds for renovation of the Carroll county Livestock Facility.

Franklin County Fair and Horseshow Association, Inc.

The Franklin County Fair and Horseshow Association, Inc. was approved for \$12,488 in Franklin County funds to enhance the state of the art livestock facility currently under construction at Lakeview Park.

Green County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.

The Green County Cattlemen's Association, Inc. was approved

for \$260,000 in Green County funds to construct an agricultural marketing and education center.

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture was approved for \$3,307,900 in state funds to continue the marketing initiatives which are currently promoting the Kentucky Proud Program.



Magoffin County Cattle Association, Inc.

Magoffin County Cattle Association, Inc. was approved for \$36,558 in Magoffin County funds to administer a menu program for three model programs including: Cattle Handling Facilities, Cattle Genetics Improvement, and the Swine Diversification Program.

Magoffin County Conservation District

The Magoffin County Conservation District was approved for \$73,116 in Magoffin County funds to administer a menu program for two model programs including: Farm Livestock Fencing Improvement, and Forage Improvement and Utilization.



The Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP) provides a direct link between the Governor and one of the Commonwealth's most important industries. GOAP administers the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board (Phase I), the Kentucky Tobacco Settlement Trust Corporation (Phase II), and the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC), as well as other Boards and Commissions.

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